

District Judge Barbara J. Rothstein

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

BERNADETTE MUKANKUSI,

Plaintiff,

v.

KRISTI NOEM, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:25-cv-00479-BJR

STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD
CASE IN ABEYANCE AND ORDER

For good cause, Plaintiff and Defendants, by and through their counsel of record, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6 and Local Rules 7(d)(1), 10(g) and 16, hereby jointly stipulate and move to hold this case in abeyance until November 28, 2025. Plaintiff brought this litigation pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act and Mandamus Act seeking, *inter alia*, to compel the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (“USCIS”) adjudicate her Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal. Defendants’ response to the Complaint is currently due on June 26, 2025. The parties are currently working towards a resolution to this litigation.

Courts have “broad discretion” to stay proceedings. *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 706 (1997). “[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to

1 control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for
2 counsel, and for litigants.” *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936); *see also* Fed. R. Civ.
3 P. 1.

4 With additional time, this case may be resolved without the need of further judicial
5 intervention. USCIS has scheduled Plaintiff for an asylum reinterview on July 31, 2025. USCIS
6 agrees to diligently work towards completing the adjudication within 120 days of the interview,
7 absent unforeseen or exceptional circumstances that would require additional time for
8 adjudication. If the adjudication is not completed within that time, USCIS will provide a status
9 report to the Court. Plaintiff will submit all supplemental documents and evidence, if any, to
10 USCIS seven to ten days prior to the interview date. Plaintiff recognizes that failure to submit
11 documents prior to the interview may require the interview to be rescheduled and the
12 adjudication delayed. If needed, Plaintiff will bring an interpreter to the interview, otherwise the
13 interview will need to be rescheduled and the adjudication delayed. After the interview, USCIS
14 will need time to adjudicate Plaintiff’s asylum application. Once the application is adjudicated,
15 Plaintiff will dismiss the case with each party to bear their own litigation costs and attorneys’
16 fees. Accordingly, the parties request this abeyance to allow USCIS to conduct Plaintiff’s
17 asylum interview and then process her asylum application.

18 As additional time is necessary for this to occur, the parties request that the Court hold
19 the case in abeyance until November 28, 2025. The parties will submit a joint status report on or
20 before November 28, 2025.

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1 DATED this 13th day of June, 2025.

2 Respectfully submitted,

3 TEAL LUTHY MILLER
4 Acting United States Attorney

5 s/ Michelle R. Lambert

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15 *Attorneys for Defendants*

16 I certify that this memorandum contains 401 words,
17 in compliance with the Local Civil Rules.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

ORDER

The case is held in abeyance until November 28, 2025. The parties shall submit a joint status report on or before November 28, 2025. It is so **ORDERED**.

DATED this 13th day of June, 2025.



Barbara Jacobs Rothstein
U.S. District Court Judge